



DATE: November 20, 2023

TO: Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis and City Councilmembers

FROM: Mayor Lynne Robinson

SUBJECT: Item 7b – Council Business – Salary Commission

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In 2016, the City Council established an independent salary commission for the purpose of reviewing and establishing salaries of councilmembers. The commission was comprised of five members from the community and met over the course of two months before filing their final report with the City Clerk in December 2016. The final recommendation that the council accepted of the salary commission increased councilmember salaries at a rate of 2.64 percent per annum since the prior increase in 2000. Within the final report, the commission opined that councilmember salaries should be reviewed every two to four years.

Given that it has been six years since the last salary review, with no cost-of-living increase, this evening I am asking for support from my colleagues to direct staff to move forward with recruiting for a new salary commission to again review salaries of councilmembers and file a final report with the City Clerk.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

*I move to establish a new independent salary commission and direct staff to begin recruitment of commission members, in the new year, and return to council with any additional actions necessary for the salary commission to perform their duties under Bellevue City Code chapter 3.60.*